

Fogland Beach Oversight Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

14 August 2013

Members present: T. Ramotowski (Chairman), C. Lima (Neighborhood Representative), S. Berlucci (Director of Public Works), and M. Van Hof (Open Space Commission).

Members absent: J. Goncalo (Town Administrator); C. Roemlein (Recreation Commission), and C. Clarendon (Harbor Commission).

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM by Chairman Ramotowski.

Public Delegations:

There were no public delegations.

Recent Physical Changes at Fogland:

Vehicles Driving between Playground Fence and Beach Dune

Chairman Ramotowski noted that vehicles have been driving between the eastern side of the playground chain-link fence and the adjacent beach dune. This action is dangerous to those using the playground and it is also damaging the western side of the dune.

Mr. Berlucci noted that the other access to the parking to the south of the playground was via an unpaved road that begins near the attendant's shack. That road is rough and people do not like to use it. It would be impractical to place boulders between the playground fence and the dune – that could cause people to drive even further over the dune. The best course of action may be to remove the westernmost portion of the dune to allow cars to pass between the fence and the dune. Chairman Ramotowski noted that such an approach would require approval from the CRMC.

Mr. Van Hof stated that he would look into the cost of purchasing native vegetation for stabilizing the newly built dunes.

Need for Boulders at the End of the Windsurfer Beach

Chairman Ramotowski noted that most of the boulders that used to mark the eastern end of the parking area on the Windsurfer's Beach had been buried by sand and no longer formed a barrier to vehicular traffic. Cars can now access the salt marsh and beach by driving beyond the now buried boulder line.

Physical State of the Boat Launch:

RI-DEM and Town Agreement for Boat Launch

Chairman Ramotowski noted that the agreement between the Town and RI-DEM for the Fogland boat launch ends in December of 2014. The agreement obligates the DEM to provide certain repair materials for the boat launch at the Town's request as long as the Town maintains the boat launch and does not charge boat launch people more to park at Fogland than it charges Town residents. A decision needs to be made by the Town Council whether the agreement should be renewed or allowed to expire. Also, Tiverton's Public Works Department needs to decide whether or not any concrete logs should be requested from RI-DEM to repair the boat launch between now and December 2014 while the agreement is still in effect. Mr. Berlucchi stated that he would take a look at the condition of the boat launch and make a determination as to whether any repair materials were needed. Chairman Ramotowski stated that he would bring up the issue of the agreement's upcoming expiration to the Town Council later in the year.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

T. Ramotowski, Chairman